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120.

THE CASE OF *ROBERT SURMAN.*

THE Truſtees of the Eſtates of the late *South-Sea* Directors and others having lately reported to the Honourable Houſe of Commons, that they had almoſt finiſhed and executed their Truſt, and a Bill having been thereupon order'd to be brought in for diſcharging them from their ſaid Truſt, and for veſting the Reſidue of their Eſtates in the *South-Sea* Company; the ſaid *Robert Surman* begs leave to repreſent, that in the Year 1720 he was Deputy-Caſhier of the ſaid Company, and having by the Riſque of his own Fortune (which by his Inventory appears to have been, before the Scheme, near ten thouſand Pounds) gain'd a very conſiderable Eſtate, was without any particular Crime alledged againſt him puniſh'd as one of the late *South-Sea* Directors, and with them diveſted of his whole Eſtate, with an Allowance only of five thouſand Pounds for the ſupport of himſelf, his Wife and Children, and was alſo with them render'd incapable of gaining a Subſiſtance by any Employ, either civil or military.

He has nevertheleſs in every Thing ſubmitted and conformed himſelf to the Directions of the Act of Parliament made for taking away his Eſtate, and has delivered up all his Effects to the Value of above an hundred thouſand Pounds, clear of all Claims and Demands whatſoever, as by ſeveral Reports from the ſaid Truſtees, now before the Houſe, will appear.

He has likewiſe given a conſtant Attendance upon the ſaid Company, and their Truſtees, for ſix Years laſt paſt, and by his Aſſiſtance and Information, has been of very great Service to the Company.

Wherefore he humbly hopes, that the Honourable Houſe of Commons will take his Caſe into Conſideration, and as he was only a Clerk to the ſaid Company, during the whole Time of the Tranſactions of the Year 1720, and had not the leaſt Concern in the Direction of their Affairs, that they will be pleaſed to ſhew him ſome Favour and Compaſſion; and in regard the ſmall Allowance, he has received, is far ſhort of what has been given to moſt of the Directors, and bears no Proportion to the Eſtate of which he has been diveſted, that they will give him ſuch Relief upon the Circumſtances of his Caſe, as in their great Wiſdom they ſhall think meet.